

Middleton House
15 Cannon Street
Georgetown
Georgetown County
South Carolina

HABS No. SC-314

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

MIDDLETON HOUSE

Address: 15 Cannon Street, Georgetown, Georgetown County,
South Carolina.

Present Owner
and Occupant: Mrs. H. G. Tarbox, 15 Cannon Street, Georgetown,
South Carolina.

Present Use: Residential.

Brief Statement
of Significance: An eighteenth-century coastal planter's town
house.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

- A. Original and Subsequent Owners: Middleton family (according to Julian S. Bolick in Georgetown Houselore); later owned by Tucker, Hucks, Jacobs, and Tarbox families.
- B. Date of Erection: Reputed to have been built in 1760.
- C. Notes on Known Alterations and Additions: During half a century when the house was vacant some mantels and cornices were removed. The building has been restored within recent decades.
- D. Sources of Information: Bolick, Julian S. Georgetown Houselore. Clinton, S. C.: Jacobs Press, 1944.
Georgetown Chamber of Commerce. Historic Trail of Old Homes and Buildings of Georgetown, S. C. Georgetown, S. C.: Georgetown Chamber of Commerce, n. d.

Prepared by Harley J. McKee, Architect
National Park Service
August 1963

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

- A. General Statement:
 - 1. Architectural character: Large, squarish mansion on the waterfront.
 - 2. Condition of fabric: Good.
- B. Technical Description of Exterior:
 - 1. Number of stories, bays, layout: Two-and-a-half stories on elevated basement; four-bay side, four-bay front; square, with stair hall projecting on rear.

2. Foundations: Brick.
3. Wall construction: Frame with beaded clapboarding, painted white, approximately 7" to the weather.
4. Structural system: Traditional frame construction.
5. Porches: Large porch on front (river side) and on right side (Cannon Street side) with partial return which gives access to rear stair tower. This porch is supported on a brick, barrel-vaulted arcade. Modern double brick stairs on river front and single modern brick stairs on rear; modern concrete floor; modern wooden railing and iron stair railing; simple square columns.
6. Chimneys: Two, tall, square, stuccoed, brick chimneys with double brick miters.
7. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: Flush-paneled door on river side has six panels; rectangular transom with arch-pattern glazing to give a fanlight appearance; double, molded architrave. On the Cannon Street side are two other doors. One has a transom similar to that in the front and a molded frame; the other door has a square-head transom with a plain frame. Door to porch from stair tower has a simple, square-head transom and a molded frame.
 - b. Windows and shutters: Tall, nine-over-nine-light windows of narrow proportions; plain unmolded frame. There are no shutters, but shutter pintles remain.
8. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: Pyramidal roof over main block; porch covered with hipped roof; gable roof to stair-hall addition. Red asphalt shingles.
 - b. Cornice: Curious cornice of dentil course and extended bead-and-reel molding, which appears to be later.
 - c. Dormers: Two dormers on river front, single dormers on sides. All have six-over-six-light, double-hung, wooden sash and hipped roofs.
9. Stair hall: Pedimented stair-hall addition with fan-like keystone and a tall, double-hung sash in stair hall facing Front Street. Arch effect at top set in rectangular frame.

D. Site:

1. Orientation: On large lot between a main street and bay (river). The front faces southwest toward the water.
2. Outbuildings: Modern garage added at corner of house. Ruins of docks at the waterfront.
3. Landscaping: At random places there are mature trees, shrubs; grass lawn.

Prepared by James C. Massey, Architect
National Park Service
February 1963